



College Success Faculty Development

Friday, March 10, 2006

Wadsworth is pleased to invite you to participate in an interactive workshop that will provide information, practical strategies, and an opportunity to spend the day with two renowned experts on the first year: John N. Gardner and Betsy O. Barefoot.

Learn from the Leaders: A day with John Gardner and Betsy Barefoot on what works in College Success Courses

Description of Session #1: Session #1 will place the first-year seminar in the national context of best practices the first year, common retention initiatives, and concerns about the quality of teaching and learning. Barefoot and Gardner will provide the latest research on structural characteristics and teaching techniques that result in seminar effectiveness. The session will consider all types of seminars and will focus on the needs and concerns of course directors and instructors.

Description of Session #2: Session #2 will consider lessons learned from and about assessment of first-year seminars. In addition, the presenters will address other critical issues that can make or break a seminar, such as gaining institutional support, assuring faculty involvement, dealing with campus politics, and generating student interest.

ABOUT THE PRESENTERS:

John N. Gardner brings unparalleled experience to this workshop. John is the recipient of the University of South Carolina's highest award for teaching excellence, and he has 25 years of experience directing and teaching in the University's highly respected University 101 course. He is universally recognized as one of the country's leading higher educators for his role in initiating and orchestrating an international reform movement to improve the beginning college experience, a concept he coined as "the first-year experience." John is the founding executive director of two influential higher education centers that support campuses in their efforts to improve the learning and retention of beginning college students: the National Resource Center for The First-Year Experience and Students in Transition at the University of South Carolina (www.sc.edu/fye), and the Policy Center on the First Year of College in Brevard, N.C. (www.fyfoundations.org).

Betsy Barefoot is a writer, researcher, and teacher whose special area of scholarship is the first-year seminar. During her tenure at the University of South Carolina from 1988 to 1999, she served as co-director for research and publications at the National Resource Center for The First-Year Experience and Students in Transition. She also taught University 101 in addition to special topics graduate courses on the "first-year experience" and the principles of college teaching. She conducts first-year seminar faculty training workshops around the US and in other countries and is frequently called on to evaluate seminar outcomes. Betsy currently serves as co-director and senior scholar in the Policy Center on the First Year of College, located in Brevard, NC. In this role she led a major national research project to identify "institutions of excellence" in the first college year. She currently works with both two- and four-year campuses in evaluating all components of the first year.

Schedule:

8:30-9:00
Check in and
Continental Breakfast

9:00-11:30
Session 1

11:30-12:15
Lunch
(Wadsworth will provide)

12:30-3:00
Session 2

3:00-3:30
Wrap Up

INSTITUTE LOCATION: The Westin, St. Louis

INSTITUTE REGISTRATION: Free, but advance registration is required. To register, email sharon.berlin@thomson.com.

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